Protection of Gems in Koderma, Bihar

1324. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India conducted any study to map out gem mines in Koderma district in Bihar;

(b) how the costly stones and gems spread in 30 Kilometer area is being protected from illegal mining;

(c) the number of arrests made in that district during the last two years for illegal mining; and

(d) the steps taken to stop smuggling of precious stones from remaining years of Eight Five Year Plan?

G THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No. Sir.

(b) For checking incidence of illegal mining in the area, the Mines and Forest officials of the Bihar Government conduct regular inspection and initiate legal proceedings against the illegal miners. Section 144 CRPC has been promulgated in the area.

(c) For illegal mining, 42 persons have been are ested during the last two years.

(d) Frequent raids are conducted by the State Government Officials and steps have been taken to establish a police check post to check illegal mining in the area.

Exemption from Drug Price Control in the basis of R&D

1325. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 8358 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd June, 1995 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has received applications from other companies alongwith certificate from the department of Science and Tednology in respect of other drugs for exemption on the basis of R&D from Drug Price Control;

(b) if so, the time when his Ministry received these applications;

(c) since when these applications are pending and the reasons for the same;

(d) the procedure for exempting drugs from price control on the ground of R&D; and

(e) the time frame laid down by his Ministry for consideration of each application?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Only one application along with the requisite certificate from the Depptt. of Science and Technology has been received in this Deptt. on 3.7.95 from M/s. Bayer Ltd. for exemption of price control of Bulk Drug Mebhydroline Napadisylate, on the basis of indigenous R&D efforts undertaken by the company. The processing of this application is held up for want of certain information/clarification which are still awaited from the applicant.

(d) The procedure involves consideration of application by the Expert Committee constituted for the purpose, in accordance with the guidelines on the subject matter. Recommendations of the Expert

Committee are thereafter submitted for consideratin by Minister (Chemicals and Fertilizers) and after obtaining his approval the necessary Gazette notification is issued.

(c) Since such cases are far and few, no time frame has been stipulated, however, the Expert Committee meets as ofter as necessary.

Drip Irrigation Technology to Farmers of U.P.

1326. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action taken so far by Government to privide drip irrigation technology to the farmers of drought prone areas of U.P.;

(b) the financial assistance provided under the scheme in these areas during last three years; and

(c) the estimated number of farmers who availed of this facility during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Governmnet of India has taken following action to promote drip irrigation technology to the farmers of U.P., including the farmers of drought prone areas.

(i) Subsidy support to farmers upto a ceiling of 50% of cost of drip system limited to Rs. 15,000 per ha. for the total area he/she owns as per the State Land Ceiling Laws.

(ii) Demonstration of 1 ha. each at State farms with financial assistance of 75% of cost or Rs. 22,500 wichever is less.

(iii) Training of the field staff and farmers.

(iv) Support for applied research at Plasticulture Development Centre.

(b) Funds released to U.P. State during last three years under the scheme of Use of Plastics in Agriculture, in which drip irrigation is one of the major item is as under;

1992-93	—	Rs. 125 lakhs
1993-94	—	Rs. 93.19 lakhs
1994-95	—	Rs. 101.25 lakhs

(c) The estimated number of farmers who have availed the drip irrigation facility are approximately 335 farmers till date.

Proposals for Welfare of Terrorism Affected and Rural Women and Children

1327. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answar to Unstarred Qestion 4280 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th April, 1995 andstate:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for formulating more welfare schemes and programmes for rural and terrorism affected women/widows and children in the country, particularly in the State of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) Efforts were being made to evolve and extend benefits through various programmes for women and children such as Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA). Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) and Scheme of Short Stay Homes for women and children. These schemes are being implemented by the Deptt. of Women and Child Development. There is no scheme exclusively for terrorism affected women and children. However, Ministry of Home Affairs has several relief package for persons which includes widows and orphans adversely affected in terrorist violence in the State of Punjab.